‘CHRISTMAS UNDER WRAPS’

PRODUCTION BIOS

JEFFREY SCHENCK (Executive Producer) – Jeffrey Schenck is an independent film and television producer who has his own production company, ARO ENTERTAINMENT along with owning and operating HYBRID with his producing partner, Barry Barnholtz.

Schenck's professional roots are also strongly intertwined with his personal history. His great uncles, Joe and Nick Schenck, were involved in the origins of the motion picture business, including the founding and management of MGM and Fox.

Prior to starting ARO and HYBRID, Schenck was the president of Regent Studios and over the past thirteen years with the company, had been involved with over fifty movies from conception to completion.

Schenck oversaw the entire production arm of Regent, which services content for all of the company's distribution platforms as well as other television networks. He was responsible for the studio's operations including development, financing and all aspects of budgeting and physical production. Schenck also directed the domestic distribution relationships including television and home entertainment. Under Schenck's leadership, Regent became one of the most prolific producers of television/DVD content in the entertainment industry. Notable films he produced include several highly rated television films such as “Doomsday Rock,” “Catch Me If You Can” (Family Channel), “Chupacabra,” “Ice Spiders” (Syfy Channel), “I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus” (Pax), “Eve’s Christmas,” “Home for the Holidays” (Lifetime), “Chasing Christmas” and “Christmas Do-Over) ABC Family.

Since its conception, ARO Entertainment has produced several movies which include “Silent Venom” starring Luke Perry, Krista Allen and Tom Berenger released by 20th Century Fox; “Thirst” an indie thriller starring Lacey Chabert; the highly-rated Syfy Originals “Malibu Shark Attack” with Peta Wilson and Warren Christie and “Ice Road Terror” with Brea Grant, Dylan Neal and Ty Olson and several Lifetime Original Movies which include “Encounter With Danger” starring Shannen Doherty, “A Trusted Man” with Charisma Carpenter, “Deadly Honeymoon” starring Summer Glau and Chris Carmack and “Virtual Lies” with Christina Cox.

With HYBRID, he has produced over thirty movies since 2008. Their first picture, “A Christmas Proposal” starring Nicole Eggert, David O’Donnell and Tom Arnold, premiered on Lifetime and scored one of their highest ratings of the season. Since then, the company has launched a series of family movies such as “The Dog Who Saved Christmas,” “The Dog Who Saved Christmas Vacation,” “The Dog Who Saved Halloween” and the upcoming “The Dog Who Saved The Holidays.” The first movie premiered simultaneously on ABC Family (which scored their highest rating of the season, and was a huge success on DVD for Anchor Bay Entertainment. HYBRID has also made several thrillers for Lifetime including “Abandoned” (starring the late Brittany Murphy and Peter Bogdonavich) and “Stolen Child” (starring Emmanuelle Vaugier, Corbin Bernson and Tichina Arnold). Recently, HYBRID produced “Wyatt’s Earp’s Revenge” for Sony starring Val Kilmer and Trace Adkins and “Hatfields & McCoys: Bad Blood” starring Christian Slater, Perry King and Jeff Fahey for LIONSGATE.

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**BARRY BARNHOLTZ (Executive Producer)** – Barry Barnholtz is an independent film and television producer who has his own production company, BEI (Barnholtz Entertainment, Inc.) along with owning and operating HYBRID with his producing partner, Jeffrey Schenck.

Barnholtz has spent his career developing, producing, and acquiring mainstream and niche product for home entertainment distribution since the inception of home video.

Barnholtz co-founded Vidmark in 1983, which subsequently became Trimark Pictures. In his position as Senior Vice President of Acquisitions he oversaw all acquisitions for Trimark Pictures and Vidmark Entertainment, the home video division that released 45 feature films per year to the video market. His product acquisitions took the company from virtually nothing to over $100 million in revenue per year during his 14 years. Purchasing over 400 films, Barnholtz developed a formula that created a 95% profitability factor. He was responsible for producing or acquiring the highly successful “Leprechaun “ franchise starring Jennifer Anniston, “Swimming with Sharks” starring Kevin Spacey, “The Curse of the Starving Class’ starring James Woods and Kathy Bates, “Federal Hill” directed by Michael Corrente, Emmy® award winning “Mystery of the Sphinx,” “La Femme Nikita,” “Longtime Companion” starring Mary-Louise parker and Dermot Mulroney, the “Warlock” franchise, “The Cook, The Thief, His wife and Her Lover,” “Black Robe” directed by Bruce Beresford, “Amityville Curse (IV)” and “Dead Alive” directed by Peter Jackson.


Through guaranteed, output agreements with Lions Gate, Gaian and E-One, BEI’s product is sold at the nation’s largest retailers including Wal-mart, Best Buy, Target, Sam’s Club and Amazon. The distribution of BEI and HYBRID films (with his producing partner, Jeffrey Schenck) have both been phenomenally successful.

With HYBRID, he has produced over thirty movies since 2008. Their first picture, “A Christmas Proposal” starring Nicole Eggert, David O’Donnell and Tom Arnold, premiered on Lifetime and scored one of their highest ratings of the season. Since then, the company has launched a

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**PETER SULLIVAN (Producer/Director)** – Peter Sullivan serves as the Vice President and Co-Producer for HYBRID. In addition to over thirty produced screenplays for producers such as New Line Cinema, Regent, Cinetel Pictures and HYBRID, Sullivan also spent years in development, working for Wilshire Court Productions, Landscape Entertainment, Artisan Television and Hearst Entertainment.

Sullivan is a graduate of the prestigious NYU film school before making his way to Los Angeles.

He has helped oversee over thirty movies for HYBRID, some of which he has written and directed. Sullivan wrote the screenplay for “Abandoned” starring the late Brittany Murphy (in her last movie role) along with Mimi Rogers, Dean Cain and Peter Bogdonavich. He also directed “All About Christmas Eve” for Hybrid, starring Haylie Duff, Chris Carmack and Bianca Lawson.

Recently, he wrote and directed, “Summoned” for LIONSGATE, starring Cuba Gooding, Jr., Ashley Scott and Bailey Chase.

Sullivan continues to help produce and develop movies for Hybrid, which has produced over thirty movies since 2008. Sullivan wrote the screenplay for “A Christmas Proposal” starring Nicole Eggert, David O’Donnell and Tom Arnold, premiered on Lifetime and scored one of their highest ratings of the season. HYBRID has also made several thrillers for Lifetime including “Abandoned” (starring the late Brittany Murphy and Peter Bogdonavich) and “Stolen Child” (starring Emmanuelle Vaugier, Corbin Bernson and Tichina Arnold), both of which were written by Sullivan.

The company has two movies Premiering in October. The SYFY Original – “Finder’s Keepers” - starring Jamie Pressley and Tobin Bell which Sullivan wrote and he directed the Lifetime Original (more)
JENNIFER NOTAS (Writer) - Jennifer Notas channeled her love of writing and passion for pop culture during her time as a Television/Radio major at Ithaca College in upstate New York, completing a concentration in Screenwriting, a minor in Writing and four semesters as a tutor in the school’s Writing Center. After graduation, Notas moved to Los Angeles with the plan to become a sitcom writer. While working in television as an executive assistant, writer’s assistant and assistant story editor, Notas managed to find time to write spec scripts and a few screenplays.

After freelancing as a script reader for Larry Levinson Productions and generally struggling to make it in the entertainment business, Notas called it quits and enrolled in a Masters program at Pepperdine University. With two months to go before graduation, Notas’ life came full circle when the Hallmark Channel and producing partner Larry Levinson Productions hired her to write the Hallmark Channel Original Movie, “Elevator Girl.”

Notas also has worked on several Hallmark Channel Original Movies including “Looking For Mr. Right” and “Perfect On Paper.”

--HALLMARK CHANNEL--